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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/105,528 | 06/26/1998 | NICHOLAS JOLYAN STANIFORT KNOWLES | CR9-98-062 | 5684 |

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EXAMINER

LE, UYEN T

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2171

DATE MAILED: 01/08/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/105,528

Applicant(s)

KNOWLES, NICHOLAS JOLYAN
STANIFORT

Examiner

Uyen T Le

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 November 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-8,10-15 and 17-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-8,10-15 and 17-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

1. In view of the appeal brief filed on November 1, 2002, PROSECUTION IS HEREBY REOPENED.

To avoid abandonment of the application, appellant must exercise one of the following two options:

(1) file a reply under 37 CFR 1.111 (if this Office action is non-final) or a reply under 37 CFR 1.113 (if this Office action is final); or,

(2) request reinstatement of the appeal.

If reinstatement of the appeal is requested, such request must be accompanied by a supplemental appeal brief, but no new amendments, affidavits (37 CFR 1.130, 1.131 or 1.132) or other evidence are permitted. See 37 CFR 1.193(b)(2).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

2. Claims 1, 3-8, 10-15, 17-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Siefert et al (US 5,726,688).

Regarding claim 1, the claimed computer readable code for implementing a visually-oriented technique for navigating an object model is met when Siefert shows the drop-down menu in Figures 1-2. The claimed sub process for displaying a browser

merely reads on the fact that the system of Siefert includes user interfaces used to file, draw, edit and copy. The claimed sub process for retrieving and displaying a set of elements in said browser, said elements representing said object model is met when the system displays the icons of FILE, DRAW, EDIT, COPY. The claimed sub process for enabling a user to select one of said elements is clearly present for the user to select the icons shown in Figure 2. The claimed sub process for retrieving and displaying relationship information from said model when said selected element is a component of said model is met when Siefert shows POINT, LINE, CIRCLE, ELLIPSE, BOX, TEXT. The claimed sub process for enabling said user to select one or more relationships from said displayed relationship information has to be present for the user of the system of Siefert to select from POINT, LINE, CIRCLE, ELLIPSE, BOX, TEXT (see Figure 2).

Regarding claim 3, the claimed action list is met by the options of CENTER & RADIUS, TWO POINTS, DIAMETER, THREE POINTS (see Figure 2).

Regarding claim 4, clearly the action list includes actions tailored to the selected relationship since the action of CENTER & RADIUS is tailored to CIRCLE.

Regarding claim 5, the claimed selected element is met by the fact that the user selects DRAW. The claimed action list of actions tailored to said selected element when said element is a component merely reads on the options to draw a POINT, a LINE, a CIRCLE, an ELLIPSE, a BOX or TEXT upon the user selecting DRAW.

Regarding claim 6, Siefert discloses that the action list is filtered before being presented to said user, using one or more predefined filters when Siefert shows the

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action list of CENTER & RADIUS, DIAMETER filtered to drawing a CIRCLE (see Figure 2).

Regarding claim 7, Siefert shows a conventional browser (see Figures 1-2).

Claims 8, 14 correspond respectively to a system for the computer program product of claims 1, 7, therefore are rejected for the same reasons stated in claims 1, 7 above.

Claim 15 corresponds to a method for the computer program product of claim 1, therefore is rejected for the same reasons stated in claim 1 above.

Claims 10-13, 17-20 correspond respectively to a system and method for the computer program product of claims 3-6, therefore are rejected for the same reasons stated in claims 3-6 above.

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Davies et al (US 5,586,311) teach an object oriented data access and analysis system.

Chang et al (US 5,627,979) teach a system and method for providing a graphical user interface for mapping and accessing objects in data stores.

Lubin et al (US 5,685,243) teach an interactive learning system.

Scheer et al "Extending data modeling to cover the whole enterprise", ACM 1992, pages 166-171.

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4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Uyen T Le whose telephone number is 703-305-4134.

The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:00-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Safet Metjahic can be reached on 703-308-1436. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-7239 for regular communications and 703-746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.



Uyen Le
January 3, 2003